LOG OF MEETING OFFICE OF HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND REDUCTION

SUBJECT: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70 National Electrical Code (NEC)

Task Group on NEC section 210.8(A) Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter (GFCI)

Protection for Personnel on Outdoor Outlets

<u>DATE OF MEETING:</u> December 14, 2022

PLACE OF MEETING: Virtual Meeting

<u>LOG ENTRY SOURCE:</u> Doug Lee, Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction (EXHR)

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Doug Lee, EXHR

Einstein Miller, Directorate for Laboratory Sciences (LSE)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Task Group Chair: Rod Belisle – NECA-IBEW

Jeff Sargent – NFPA

Greg Woyczynski - AHAM

And other task group members and guests (contact NFPA for a complete list)

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Background: The NFPA staff were tasked to establish a task group of affected stakeholders, including appliance and GFCI manufacturers and other interested parties to evaluate the issues raised and consider whether a Temporary Interim Amendment (TIA) may be appropriate regarding unwanted GFCI tripping in dwellings required by the 2023 NEC Section 210.8(A) expansion of requirements. In prior meetings, discussions were held on a) appliances that are causing GFCIs to trip when there is no apparent ground-fault, b) the Department of Energy mandates for energy efficiency, c) data that would substantiate which products and combinations of GFCIs were experiencing unwanted tripping, and d) UL product standards. The chair requested additional data for unwanted tripping be brought to the task group for review.

During this meeting, the task group reviewed possible TIA language provided by AHAM, CPSC electrocution data associated with consumer products, and a NEMA letter reviewing some of their investigations on reported unwanted tripping. NEMA found that some of the unwanted tripping was from one brand appliance that tripped only during an initial "bake-off" period but were reportedly working fine since. They also found that one unit had high leakage current on the equipment grounding conductor. Some task group members continued to question why the task group would reduce safety by proposing a TIA. A couple of task group members were receptive to a possible TIA, however, they expressed concern that the proposed scope of the TIA was much too broad. The next task group meeting was scheduled for January 10, 2023.